



Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32307-3100

LARRY ROBINSON, Ph.D., PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE: (850) 599-3225
FAX: (850) 561-2152
TDD: (850) 561-2784

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 4, 2023

Mr. Ray Rodrigues, Chair
Board of Governors
State University System of Florida
200 West College Avenue, Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Re: Confirmation of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University President Larry Robinson's, Ph.D. Contract Extension

Dear Chair Rodrigues:

On December 8, 2022, the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) Board of Trustees unanimously approved a one-year contract extension for Larry Robinson, Ph.D., to serve as the University President.

FAMU continues to rise toward the Top 100 according to U.S News & World Report, 2022-2023 Best Colleges ranking of Top Public Universities. FAMU is ranked 103rd and for the fourth consecutive year FAMU is the highest-ranked public Historically Black College and University (HBCU). Additionally, FAMU is ranked 23rd among national universities in social mobility, the truest indicator of our ability to alter the economic trajectory of students, families and communities for generations to come.

Some other notable accomplishments under Dr. Robinson's leadership during the past year include:

- Achieving another record-breaking year in fundraising, totaling more than \$24 million;
- Expanding to more than 50 members in the Industry Cluster (55);
- Setting a record for total research awards, which exceeded \$75 million;
- Receiving unprecedented support from the Florida Legislature of nearly \$70 million in new funding for infrastructure enhancements, operational support, and student success initiatives;
- Earning a \$12.59 million allocation from the Florida Board of Governors' Performance Based Funding (PBF) model;
- Completing renovation of Bragg Memorial Stadium with over \$10 million from the City of Tallahassee/Leon County Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency; and
- Launching a new five-year strategic plan, "Boldly Striking."

None of this would be possible without the collaborative and innovative work of the university's exceptional faculty and staff, and the support of alumni and friends. Our rise in the national rankings, the accolades, and the positive branding are all a testament of our focus on student success and a commitment to executing our strategic plan. We were pleased to be one of the two SUS institutions to see increases in eight of the PBF metrics, including the "Average Cost to the Student" and the "Academic Progress Rate."

Additionally, tremendous strides continue to be made under Dr. Robinson's leadership in developing partnerships with high schools in every sector of this state, enacted articulation agreements with nineteen Florida College System institutions, as well as connected beyond the borders of Florida and the nation to enroll the highest-performing students. FAMU is committed to recruiting, retaining and graduating tomorrow's leaders. The message to our students is simple – "You can get anywhere from FAMU!"

Dr. Robinson has elevated FAMU to a new level of leadership that was on display to a national audience during our 2022 Homecoming celebration with ABC's "Good Morning America," broadcasting from campus both Friday and Saturday mornings. He serves on numerous state and national advisory boards and task forces including an ex-officio member of the Florida Council of 100, Google's HBCU Presidents Council, United States Department of Agriculture's 1890 Task Force, and the National Academies Gulf Research Program's Division Committee.

All remaining contract terms are unchanged and are compliant with state laws, including statutory provisions governing compensation, termination, and severance.

In accordance with the Board of Governors Regulation 1.00 (5)(c), the FAMU BOT respectfully requests the Board of Governor's confirmation of Dr. Robinson as President of the University. Please contact me or the University's General Counsel, Denise Wallace, if we can answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelvin Lawson".

Kelvin Lawson, Chair
Florida A&M University Board of Trustees

cc: Ray Rodrigues, Chancellor, State University System of Florida
Vikki Shirley, General Counsel, BOG
Larry Robinson, Ph.D., FAMU

Attachments